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TOTAL # OF PAGES: (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET) 8 August 3, 2006 DATE: (571) 273-8300 FAX #: Examiner Phuoc Huu Doan, Art Unit 2617 TO: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (571) 272-7920 PHONE #: FIRM NAME: (650) 857-1288 FAX#; Edward N. Bachand FROM: bachand.edward@dorsey.com EMAIL:

COMMENTS:

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RE; U.S. Patent Application SN 10/666,896 filed 09/17/2003

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REFERENCE # A-71801/ENB (465403-43)

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Signed: Claudia Cyalik

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Art Unit:

2687

Peter C. Salmon Serial No.: 10

10/666,896 Examiner:

DOAN, Phuoc Huu

Filed:

September 17, 2003

Title:

APPARATUS AND METHOD

FOR DEPLOYING AN INFORMATION

RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Date:

August 3, 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment, filed subsequent to a Request for Continued Examination of the referenced application, should be considered before further examination of this application.